

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention provides a polymeric treatment for curved regions in shaft assemblies that increases curve retention without affecting the flexibility within these regions. More specifically, the present invention modifies the underlying crystalline morphology of a polymer in order to decrease crystal fracturing. In particular, the present invention treats polymeric materials suitable for catheter construction with a nucleating agent.

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 110: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" having an Express Mail Mailing label number of:

EL855120340US

in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

on this 14th day of December 2001
Crompton, Seager & Tufte, LLC

By: Kathleen L. Boekley